"Unchecked Degradation of Urban environment"

989. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether A.P. Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd. is setting up industrial estates close to heavily populated and already environmentally polluted towns like Vijayawada;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to stop such unchecked degradation of urban environment; and

(c) what guidelines have been issued by Government to the States in the matter of industrial estates located?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY): (a) Yes Sir, an industrial estate at Bonthapally, near Vijayawada, is being planned.

(b) The steps taken to check pollution include:

(i) Projects for treatment and collection of municipal wastes from Hyderabad and Vishakapattanam have been prepared.

(ii) In Hyderabad, a 30 MW plant has been set up for generation of electricity from sewage and solid wastes and for using treated sewage for agricultural purposes.

(iii) Specific sites for locating polluting industries have been identified.

(iv) Industries located close to urban areas have been specifically directed to ensure the performance of their pollution control systems.

(v) Schemes for construction of Common Effluent Treatment Plants have been prepared from major industrial estates in the State.

(vi) Prosecutions have been launched against the major defaulting units.

(c) The States have been advised to evolve mechanisms to reduce pollutants in existing industrial estates and to take necessary steps for obtaining compliance by new units in such areas to location specific standards for achieving stringent environmental objectives.

Closure of post offices at Guntur

990. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some post offices are closed and some are in the process of closing down at Guntur; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLUEM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) No, Sir. However, one post office namely Kannavarithota was relocated at newly developed Venugopalanagar Colony in Guntur town on 6-5-1990.

(b) Kannarvarithota Post Office was relocated at as the office was situated at a distance of less than 1 K.M. from Guntur Medical College post office and there was need for a post office in the newly developed Venugopalanagar Colony.

Shifting of telephone exchange from Ponnuru to Bapatla in Andhra Pradesh.

991. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to shift telephone exchange from Ponnuru to Bapatla in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): No, Sir. There is no proposal to shift Telephone Exchange from Ponnuru to Bapatla in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh.